

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for lifting a wheelchair from a first location to a second location generally above the first location, transporting the wheelchair from the second location to a third location, and moving the wheelchair from the third location downward to a fourth location comprising:

a lift assembly for moving the wheelchair from the first location to the second location, said lift assembly including an upright first member and an upright second member movably mounted on the first member, a first linear actuator connected to the first and second members operable to selectively raise and lower the second member relative to the first member, a platform having a top surface for supporting the wheelchair, a coupling member having a front portion and a rear portion located along the middle of the top surface of the platform secured to the platform and second member adapted to be connected to the wheelchair, fasteners securing the coupling member to the platform, means securing the second member to the rear portion of the coupling member to locate said coupling member and platform being located in front of the second member, a first stop member mounted on the coupling member between the front and rear portions thereof operable to allow movement of the wheelchair from the front portion toward the rear portion of the coupling member and prevent rearward movement of the wheelchair to the rear portion of the coupling member thereby positioning the wheelchair on the platform, a headrest connected to the first member of the lift assembly above and rearwardly of the platform, a transport assembly connected to the first member for moving the lift assembly, headrest and platform from the second location to the third location, said transport assembly including a first beam adapted to be connected to a support and a second beam movably mounted on the first beam for movement between extended and contracted positions, said second beam being secured to said first member of the lift assembly, a second linear actuator connected to the first and

second beams operable to selectively move the second beam between said extended and contracted positions thereby moving the lift assembly, headrest and platform from the second location to the third location, anchors located in the fourth location adapted to be secured to ~~[[the]]~~ a fixed support for holding the platform into the fourth location, said anchors comprising a plurality of upright fixed pins, said platform having a plurality of holes accommodating the pins to ~~support and~~ retain the platform in the fourth location and a second stop member for preventing forward movement of the wheelchair on the platform when the platform is in the fourth location, said first actuator being operable to move the platform downward from the third location to the fourth location ~~into engagement with the anchors and retain to locate the fixed upright pins through the holes in the platform thereby retaining~~ the platform in the fourth location.

2. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein: the first and second members are first and second tubular members, said first linear actuator being located within and connected to the first and second tubular members.

3. (Canceled).

4. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein: the headrest includes a generally horizontal member, means connecting the horizontal member to the first member of the lift assembly, an upright plate connected to the horizontal member, and at least one pad mounted on the plate.

5. (Canceled).

6. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein: the upright pins having upper ends located in said holes and nuts threaded on the pins for supporting the platform on the pins.

7. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein: said coupling member includes a generally horizontal slot extended from the front portion toward the rear portion

thereof, said first stop member extended through the slot and secured to the coupling member ~~between the front and rear portion thereof~~, said front stop ~~[[bolt]] member~~ being operable to limit rearward movement of the wheelchair on the platform.

8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein: said coupling has a generally horizontal top wall having inwardly converging inside edges providing a generally V-shaped mouth and a linear slot open to the mouth ~~extended from the front portion toward the rear portion thereof~~ adapted to accommodate ~~anchor bolts~~ ~~an anchor member~~ attached to the wheelchair, said first stop member extended through the slot and secured to the top wall ~~in a selected position along the length of the slot~~ and engaged by the anchor ~~[[bolts]] member~~ to limit rearward movement of the wheelchair on the platform ~~and locate the wheelchair on the platform~~.

9. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein: the first and second beams are first and second box beams, said second linear actuator being located within and connected to said first and second box beams.

10-37. (Canceled).

38. (New) An apparatus for lifting a wheelchair from a first location to a second location generally above the first location, transporting the wheelchair from the second location to a third location, and moving the wheelchair downward to a fourth location comprising: a lift assembly for moving the wheelchair from the first location to the second location, a platform having a top surface with a longitudinal middle portion for supporting the wheelchair, a coupling member having a front portion and a rear portion located along the longitudinal middle portion of the top surface of the platform adapted to be connected to the wheelchair, fasteners securing the coupling member to the longitudinal middle portion of the top surface of the platform, means securing the coupling member to the lift assembly whereby the lift assembly is operable to move the platform and coupling member from the first location to the second location, a first stop

member mounted on the coupling member between the front and rear portions of the coupling member operable to allow movement of the wheelchair from the front portion toward the rear portion of the coupling member and prevent rearward movement of the wheelchair to the rear portion of the coupling member thereby positioning the wheelchair on the platform, a transport assembly connected to the lift assembly for moving the lift assembly, platform and coupling member from the second position to the third position, anchors located in the fourth location adapted to be secured to a fixed support, said lift assembly being operable to move the platform supporting the wheelchair downward from the third position to the fourth position in holding engagement with the anchors to support and retain the platform supporting the wheelchair in the fourth position, and a second stop member for preventing forward movement of the wheelchair on the platform when the platform is in the fourth position.

39. (New) The apparatus of Claim 38 wherein: said coupling member includes a generally horizontal slot extended from the front portion to the rear portion thereof, said first stop member extended through said slot and secured to the coupling member between the front and rear portions thereof operable to limit rearward movement of the wheelchair on the platform.

40. (New) The apparatus of Claim 38 wherein: said coupling member has a generally horizontal top wall having converging inside edges providing a generally V-shaped mouth and a linear slot open to the mouth extended from the front portion toward the rear portion thereof adapted to accommodate an anchor member attached to the wheelchair, said first stop member extended through the slot in a selected position along the length of the slot and secured to the top wall and engaged by the anchor member to limit rearward movement of the wheelchair on the platform and locate the wheelchair on the platform.

41. (New) The apparatus of Claim 38 wherein: said platform is a generally flat plate having a plurality of upright holes, said anchors comprise fixed upright pins having upper ends

located in said holes and nuts threaded on the pins for supporting the platform on the pins.